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COMIREX Minutes

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COMIREX-M-76

31 July 1969

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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

COMMITTEE ON IMAGERY REQUIREMENT AND EXPLOITATION *m-18*

COMIREX-M-76

31 July 1969

*Approved for*

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17-23 July 1969

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Section I (Approval of Minutes, Briefings, and Reports on Operations)

Approval of Minutes

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1. COMIREX-M-75 were approved without change.

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Operational Briefing--Satellite

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2.  reported satellite operations and scheduling as shown on page 11.

3. In connection with the schedule,  indicated that ExCom will be discussing FY 70 NRP matters at a meeting on 8 August and he suggested that it is planned to conclude on the stretch-out of the CORONA launches at that time. (See also Section IV, paragraphs 10 through 15.)

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Report on Aircraft Activities--Far East

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4. There were no FOOD FAIR or IDEALIST/TACKLE activities to report. The DIA member reported 34 BUMPY ACTION missions during the period 11-31 July. Of these, 27 were successful and seven were lost.  commented that there were five successful water recoveries during this period. Details of the missions follow:

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>AREAS/TARGETS</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
13 July	Q560/216 (Low)	Cam Pha Port Fac, Kep Ha BE, Kep RR Yd, Hiep Hoa Afld, Phuc Yen Afld	Water Recovery
13 July	Q565/217 (Low)	Bai Thuong Afld	MARS
13 July	Q556/218 (Low)	Haiphong Port Fac, Kien An Afld	Lost
14 July	Q501/219 (Low)	Vinh Afld, Vinh Compl, Rte 1A & RR, Dong Hoi	MARS
14 July	Q892N/220 (Low SRE)	Cat Bi Afld, Haiphong RR Sta, Hanoi Port Fac	MARS
15 July	Q503/221 (Low)	Rte 15, Vinh Son Compl	MARS
16 July	Q548/222 (Low)	SAM 263, Bac Mai Afld, Hanoi Port Fac, Yen Vien RR Yd	Lost
16 July	Q511/223 (Low)	Kien An Afld, Cat Bi Afld	MARS
17 July	Q550/224 (Low)	An Khe Army Bks, Haiphong Port Fac	MARS
17 July	Q538/225 (Low)	Bai Thuong Afld	MARS

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>AREAS/TARGETS</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
18 July	Q561/226 (Low)	Uong Bi TPP, Haiphong Naval Base, Haiphong RR Yd	MARS
18 July	Q516/227 (Low)	Rte 10, 1A & RR, Nam Dinh Trans Pt, Nam Dinh TPP, Thanh Hoa Trans Pt	MARS
19 July	Q553/228 (Low)	Haiphong Naval Base, Haiphong RR Yd, Kien An Afld	MARS
19 July	Q548/229 (Low)	SAM 263, Bac Mai Afld, Hanoi Port Fac, Yen Vien RR Yd	MARS
20 July	Q566/230 (Low)	Kep RR Yd, Kep Afld, Phuc Yen Afld	Lost
20 July	Q501/231 (Low)	Rte 1A & RR, Vinh Afld, Dong Hoa	MARS
21 July	Q528/232 (Low)	SAM 334, Hon Gai Port, Port Wallut Naval Base	MARS
21 July	Q503/233 (Low)	Rte 15, Vinh Son Compl	Recovered from water
22 July	Q563/234 (Low)	Phuc Yen Afld, Hoa Lac Afld	Lost
22 July	Q500/235 (Low)	Rte 10, 1A & RR, Nam Dinh Trans Pt, Nam Dinh TPP, Thanh Hoa Trans Pt	MARS
24 July	Q567/238 (Low)	Kien An Afld	Recovered from water
24 July	Q538/240 (Low)	Bai Thuong Afld, WW 19	MARS
25 July	Q569/241 (Low)	Cat Bi Afld, Hon Gai Port Fac	MARS
25 July	Q513/242 (Low)	Hanoi Port Fac, Gia Lam Afld, Yen Vien RR Yd	Lost
26 July	Q533/243 (Low)	Kiep Hoa Afld, Kep Afld, Kep RR Yd	Lost
26 July	Q501/244 (Low)	Vinh Afld, Vinh Compl, Rte 1A & RR, Dong Hoi	MARS

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>AREAS/TARGETS</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
27 July	Q570/245 (Low)	Cam Pha Port Fac, Yen Vien RR Yd, Gia Lam Afld, Hanoi Port Fac, Dong Suong Afld	Lost
28 July	Q500/247 (Low)	Rte 10, 1A & RR, Nam Dinh Trans Pt, Nam Dinh TPP, Thanh Hoa Trans Pt	MARS
29 July	Q553/249 (Low)	Haiphong Naval Base, Haiphong RR Yd, Kien An Afld	MARS
29 July	Q503/250 (Low)	Rte 15, Vinh Son Compl	Recovered from water
29 July	Q892/251 (Low SRE)	Cat Bi Afld, Haiphong RR Sta, Hanoi Port Fac	MARS
30 July	Q538/252 (Low)	Bai Thuong Afld	MARS
31 July	Q564/253 (Low)	Hanoi Port, Gia Lam Afld, Yen Vien RR Yd	MARS
31 July	Q571/254 (Low)	Port Wallut Naval Base, Tien Yen Complex, Cam Pha Port	MARS

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5. [redacted] referred to a recent report to the effect that the North Vietnamese had developed new fighter tactics against drones and asked whether there is any indication that more drones are now being lost to fighters. No one was able to provide information on this point.

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6. [REDACTED] reported the following with regard to the two GIANT SCALE missions during the period 11 - 31 July:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>MISSION NO.</u>	<u>AREAS/TARGETS</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
23 July	GS168	Yen Vien RR Yd, Phuc Yen Afld, Gia Lam Afld, Hanli, Hoa Lac Afld, Viet Tri RR Yd, Xom Ap Lo Ammo Stor	Fair
28 July	GS169	Yen Bai, Viet Tri RR Yd, RR 5, 2, 7, Rte 15, 8, 7, Kep Afld, Kep RR Yd, Phuc Yen Afld, Cam Pha Port, Hon Gai Port	Fair

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7. [REDACTED] reported as follows on coverage of special targets in South China and North Vietnam:

a. Surveillance coverage was reported on two Lines of Communication (LOC) targets pertinent to the introduction of Chinese forces into North Vietnam (see COMOR-D-25/207, 4 March 1966). (See underlined targets in Tab A.) The number of LOC priority targets in South China and North Vietnam remains at 349.

b. Coverage of North Vietnam to detect the possible introduction or deployment of offensive missile systems (see COMOR-D-25/200, 23 May 1967 and COMIREX-D-25.3/2, 20 November 1967) is shown on the grid map at Tab B for the period 17-23 July 1969. Four BUMBY ACTION missions flown during this time period and reported as successful have not been included on the map. No SSM activity was observed.

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Report on Aircraft Activities--Cuba

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8. [redacted] reported two [redacted] missions flown during the period 11 - 31 July resulting in 57.2 percent cumulative net coverage during the period. Details are given below:

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Results</u>
11 July	G 091	Successful. 14.2% coverage.
17 July	G 092	Successful. 52.1% coverage.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Mission No.</u>	<u>Recap</u>	<u>Net</u>	<u>Cumulative*</u>
11 July	G 091		14.2%	14.2%
17 July	G 092		52.1%	57.2%

\*Reporting period extends from 7 July - 31 August 1969.

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9. [redacted] reported that for the 56-day period beginning 5 June 1969, seven [redacted] Missions were flown over Cuba and provided 94 percent coverage of the area. During this period 163 of the [redacted] targets in Cuba were covered completely on cloud-free photography, not including the most recent mission flown on 17 July.

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## SATELLITE OPERATIONS SCHEDULE

As of 31 July 1969

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Mission No.	Scheduled/Launched	Recovery Date (Local Time)		FILM PROCESSING /DISTRIBUTION				COVERAGE	
		1st Bucket	2nd Bucket	Arrival Eastman Kodak (Local Time) 1st Bucket	Arrival D.C. Area (1100 Local Time) 2nd Bucket	Priority 1	Priority 2	Land Area (m. sq n.m.)	Targets (approx.)

C 1107	23 Jul 69	1 Aug 69 2250	10 Aug 69 2250	2 Aug 69 1600	11 Aug 69 1600	5 Aug 69 14 Aug 69	6 Aug 69 15 Aug 69	2.48 2.48	
CORONA mission schedule being reviewed to implement the 20 June 1969 NRP Executive Committee tentative decision to reduce the number of CORONA missions in FY 70 from six to five.									

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Section III (Subcommittee and Working Group Reports)

Note: Material presented by Subcommittee and Working Group Chairmen at the time they were called on to make their reports is reported elsewhere in the Minutes and is not repeated in this Section.

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7. The Army and Air Force members supported [redacted] discussion that the present consideration of [redacted] is particularly timely and [redacted] added his agreement with the DIA caution against being forced by haste to take an untenable position which would prejudice later action.

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8. [redacted] recorded that, while NSA recognizes the utility of a higher quality input, the question of cost and the competition for dollars is the problem of paramount importance and one which cannot be solved in haste. [redacted] emphasized the need to confirm interim guidance to norms previously established within the community, especially those which have been brought to the attention of USIB.

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9. There was general agreement that it would be necessary to lean heavily on past studies in order to prepare an interim response to NRO in time for the 15 August ExCom meeting. [redacted] proposed that he would circulate a draft paper to COMIREX members for their review and then perhaps have a special COMIREX meeting on this subject early next week.

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Implications of Stretch-out of CORONA Launch Schedule (See also Section V, Requirements Guidance for NRP Planning) ([redacted] COR/ [redacted])

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10. The Chairman reiterated his concern that COMIREX has not had all the data it needs to consider the implications of a stretch-out of CORONAs to the 5 - 5 - 2 schedule tentatively approved by the ExCom and indicated his feeling that COMIREX has an obligation to speak to the implications of one schedule versus another in terms of covering requirements. [redacted] wanted also to be certain that it was understood that quality is an important factor even though the USIB-approved search requirement for CORONA is stated only in terms of area and periodicity.

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11. The DIA member stressed that we are already slightly below the mark in meeting area requirements and he thinks it is important that area coverage be maintained. With regard to the possibility of flying the remaining CORONAs at a higher orbit in order to maintain area coverage, [REDACTED] said that DIA has carried out some studies to see what sort of degradation would occur. A series of charts had been devised to express what resolution means to us by taking major categories of interest and devising curves for determining what percentage of activities being analyzed could be identified in different resolutions. He offered the use of these charts to interested COMIREX members. The NPIC consultant cautioned that it is very difficult and often misleading to "play mathematical games" with PI data.

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12. The NRO consultant volunteered to prepare a memorandum setting forth the NRO proposal for scheduling and orbits for the remaining CORONAs, and COMIREX can then study the proposal and judge whether it agrees or disagrees with the NRO proposal.

13. The Chairman observed that, although the ExCom discussion of the stretch-out had been tentative and no formal request had been levied on COMIREX to provide an evaluation of the effect on requirements, COMIREX has an obligation to assemble and study the facts and to be certain that its principals are aware of the various implications.

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14. [REDACTED] defined three basic substantive issues relating to the stretch-out proposal -- (a) the area coverage or quantitative issue; (b) the qualitative implications of a change in altitude - a realistic evaluation of whether the qualitative degradation seriously impairs our ability to use the photography; and (c) the question of current interest at higher levels in the spacing and continuity of coverage [REDACTED]

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15. The Chairman requested that COMIREX members provide any view that they have on the scheduling of the CORONAs or on how we should address the question of stretch-out. [redacted] recognized [redacted] concern with the need for speed along with [redacted] desire to sort out the types of interrelated requirements he had mentioned. The Chairman said he would try to circulate a draft paper and plan further action as soon as he had all inputs from members and from the NRO.

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Preliminary Report on CCPC Request to Consider Special Orbit for Coverage of North Korea (USIB-D-64.6/49, 19 June 1969) (T-KH)

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16. The Chairman, ICRA, provided COMIREX with background information on the CCPC Review of Intelligence Activities Against North Korea, as pertinent to COMIREX responsibilities (see charts at Tab C), and then addressed the specific questions of flying a special orbit for North Korea coverage. The conclusion of [redacted] briefing was that the cost of using a "synchronous" (i. e., one with near daily repetition of ground trace) orbit over North Korea would be prohibitive so far as loss of coverage of other priority targets is concerned.

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17. In answer to a question from the DIA member regarding the possible conflict between the general statement of requirements for North Korea coverage in the CCRP and the CCPC report, [redacted] answered that there is some overlap. China and North Korea are grouped in the CCRP. He reminded members that CCRP targets in North Korea are prioritized next in line with any current intelligence requirements that may be approved by ICRA.

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18. [redacted] called the attention of the COMIREX members to other charges in the CCPC report which COMIREX should address such as the charge on CCPC to report to USIB within six months or earlier...on the results of action taken to increase coverage of North Korea. COMIREX should make it its business to ensure that all options involving imagery collection and exploitation have been examined and that all reasonable actions have been taken or at least tried. COMIREX should be sure its report on the foregoing reaches CCPC before the six months is up.

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19. The Chairman concluded discussion of the COMIREX course of action with the proposal that as a first order of business his staff draft a memorandum to USIB on the cost to other priority targets of a "synchronous" orbit mission to maximize coverage of North Korea. The other questions raised by the CCPC report will be addressed in due course. The proposed draft will be circulated for comment and then either prepared in final for forwarding to USIB or, if requested by a member, put on as an agenda item for further discussion at a later COMIREX meeting.

20. COMIREX members generally agreed that use of the term "synchronous" orbit was misleading and that a phrase such as "ground trace repeats" would be more descriptive of what was actually meant.

Proliferation in Number of Targets in North Korea (T-KH)

21. The Chairman noted that he was concerned by the fact that the number of targets in North Korea has increased very substantially over the past several months. (See page C-7 of Tab C). He indicated that he has asked the Chairman, ICRS, and the Chairman, DBWG, to look into this problem to determine to what degree the increase in the number of targets is a reflection of the subdivision of old targets and how many are actually new targets. They have been asked to come up with a proposal for a system that would give an accurate reflection of the number of collection actions required and a reporting system on the status of our coverage of the whole of North Korea. Such a system could serve as a pilot for other areas where similar problems exist.

22. The DIA member commented that at the height of the Cuban crisis there were [ ] targets, whereas there are only about [ ] Cuban targets at the present time.

23. [ ] asked COMIREX members to review the requirement for coverage of North Korea to see how it should be modified. He commented that it is not realistic to state the requirement in percentage terms of a target deck that has expanded to the extent this one has. Discussion of a new North Korea requirement will be placed on an upcoming agenda.

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Section V (Status of Recent COMIREX Papers)

Requirements Guidance for NRP Planning (COMIREX-D-13.16/4)

1. The Chairman distributed copies of a working paper redraft of a memorandum to USIB setting forth COMIREX guidance to NRO for use in its review of FY 71 budget proposals and in its longer range planning for the next five years. He indicated that provision had been made for guidance on the need for very high resolution to be inserted as paragraph 5 when COMIREX has had an opportunity to discuss that subject. [REDACTED] requested members to review the draft paper and telephone comments to his office tomorrow.

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Section VI (Other Business)

Availability of Preliminary Readout of Mission 1107 (T-KH)

1. The NPIC consultant reported that, according to the present schedule, preparation of the OAK for Mission 1107 will not be started before Tuesday afternoon (5 August). Although it was thought earlier that the film would arrive in NPIC on Monday evening, it is not expected now before Tuesday morning.

GIANT SCALE Coverage of North Korea Targets (S)

2. The Chairman, ICRS, provided COMIREX members with copies of a map showing the targets covered by the two recent GIANT SCALE missions over North Korea. The IPIR on GS-161 reported coverage of 72 COMIREX targets and GS-162 covered 99 COMIREX targets. A copy of the map is attached at Tab D.

Status of Far East Coverage (T-KH)

3. [redacted] distributed copies of the June and July monthly reports on coverage of the Far East in general and of 19 specific primary targets. Copies are attached at Tabs E and F.

Summary of CCRP Status (T-KH)

4. The Chairman, ICRS, distributed copies of the Summary of CCRP status as of 30 June 1969. He commented that the percentage of coverage is in the high 90's again across the board and that no category is shorter than three targets. A copy of the CCRP status report is attached at Tab G.

COMIREX Resource Information Report for Fourth Quarter FY 1969 (T-KH)

5. The Chairman, DBWG, reported that fourth quarter information for the Resource Information Report has not been received from Navy, Air Force, or NPIC and requested that an effort be made to get these in.

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Standing Prerequisites for the Exploitation of Collection Systems (SPECS)

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6. The Executive Secretary referred to the recent publication by NPIC of Standing Prerequisites for the Exploitation of Collection Systems (SPECS). Additional copies of this document [redacted]-2951-69) may be ordered from [redacted] on Code 143/extension 3514. [redacted] described the SPECS as being generalized and stated that they had been coordinated with the NRO and with the services.

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Production of World Area Grid (WAG) Overprints of World Aeronautical Charts (WAC)

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7. The DIA member reported that arrangements have been made with the service mapping organization to produce broad-based overprints of major regional World Aeronautical Charts broken down into rectangles of 12 X 18 nautical miles and then into WAG areas. Production began with the publication of the Europe map last month. Maps of other areas are to be produced in accordance with the following schedule:

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China, North Korea, Southeast Asia -- August 1969

Mid-east and Western USSR -- September 1969

South Asia -- October 1969

Eastern USSR -- November 1969

Central and Northern USSR -- December 1969

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9. The Chairman indicated that he would like to schedule a briefing on this for COMIREX members. The Executive Secretary will work out a time with [redacted]

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Candidates for COMIREX Course at Offutt Air Force Base

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10. [redacted] announced that the next session of the special class for COMIREX given by the 3428th Technical Training Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base will be 25-29 August 1969. He reminded COMIREX members that names of their nominees should be given to [redacted] as soon as possible.

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Chairman

Committee on Imagery Requirements and Exploitation

Attachments:

Tabs A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.

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Tab C

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PRELIMINARY REPORT ON CCPC REQUEST TO CONSIDER  
"SYNCHRONOUS ORBIT" FOR COVERAGE OF NORTH KOREA  
(Given by [redacted] at COMIREX, 31 July 1969)

OUTLINE

CCPC NORTH KOREA REPORT

NORTH KOREA TARGET GROWTH

ICRS CONSIDERATIONS

COVERAGE OF NORTH KOREA

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COMIREX-M-76  
Tab C

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USIB - D - 64.6/49 19 JUN 69

CCPC - D - 14/69

10 JULY 69 - USIB

APPROVED CONCLUSIONS - PAR VI

APPROVED IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIONS LISTED THEREIN

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Tab C

\* NORTH KOREA USIB REQUIREMENT

USIB-D-41.14/276

19 JAN 66

50% TARGETS

Quarterly

100%

Each 6 Months

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C - 5

[redacted] 2293-69

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Tab C

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ICRS POSITION

SYNCHRONOUS SATELLITE ORBIT NOT JUSTIFIABLE IN TERMS  
OF OVERALL INTELLIGENCE LOSS

USIB REQUIREMENT CANNOT BE MET BY SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHY

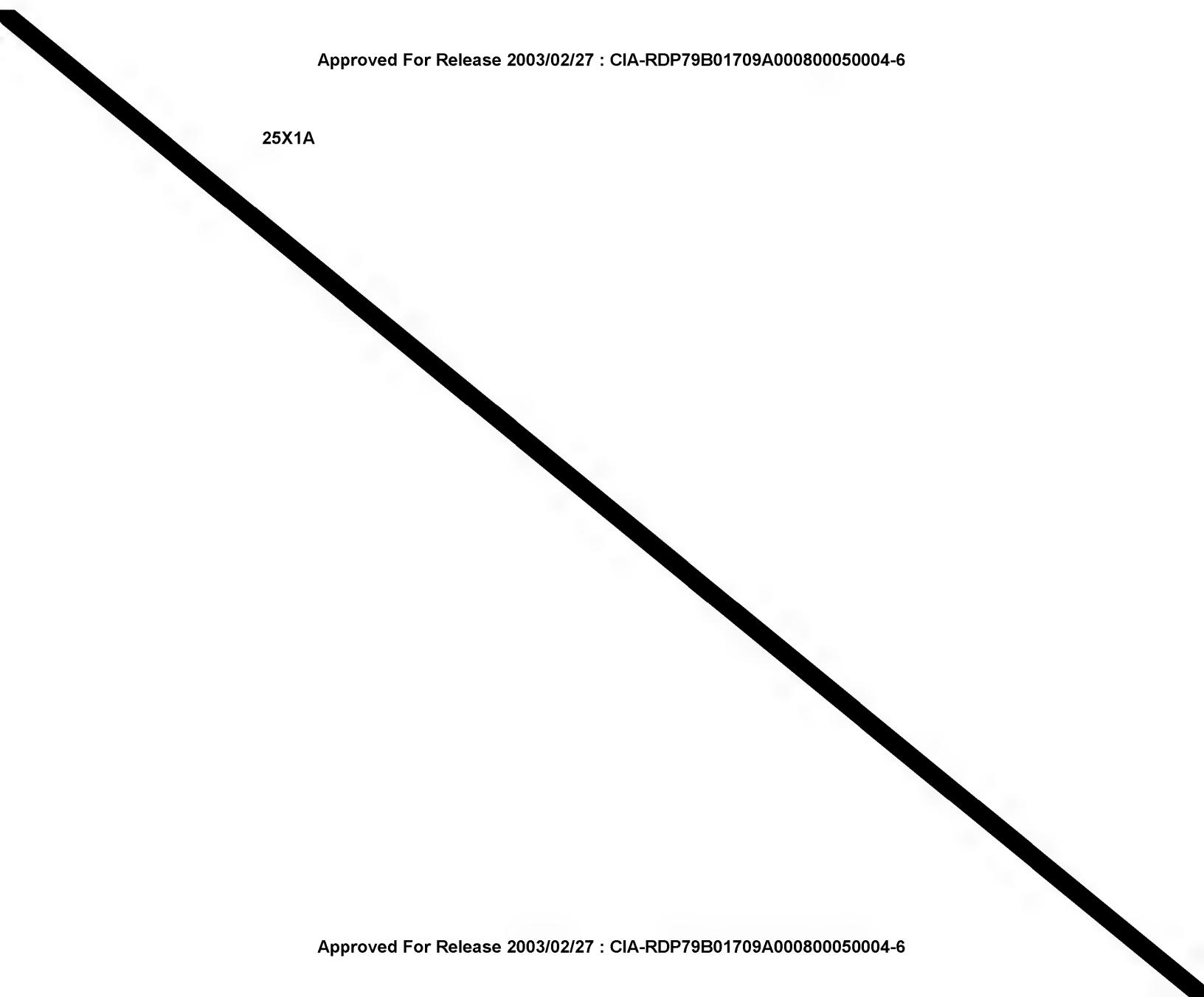
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[REDACTED] 2293-69

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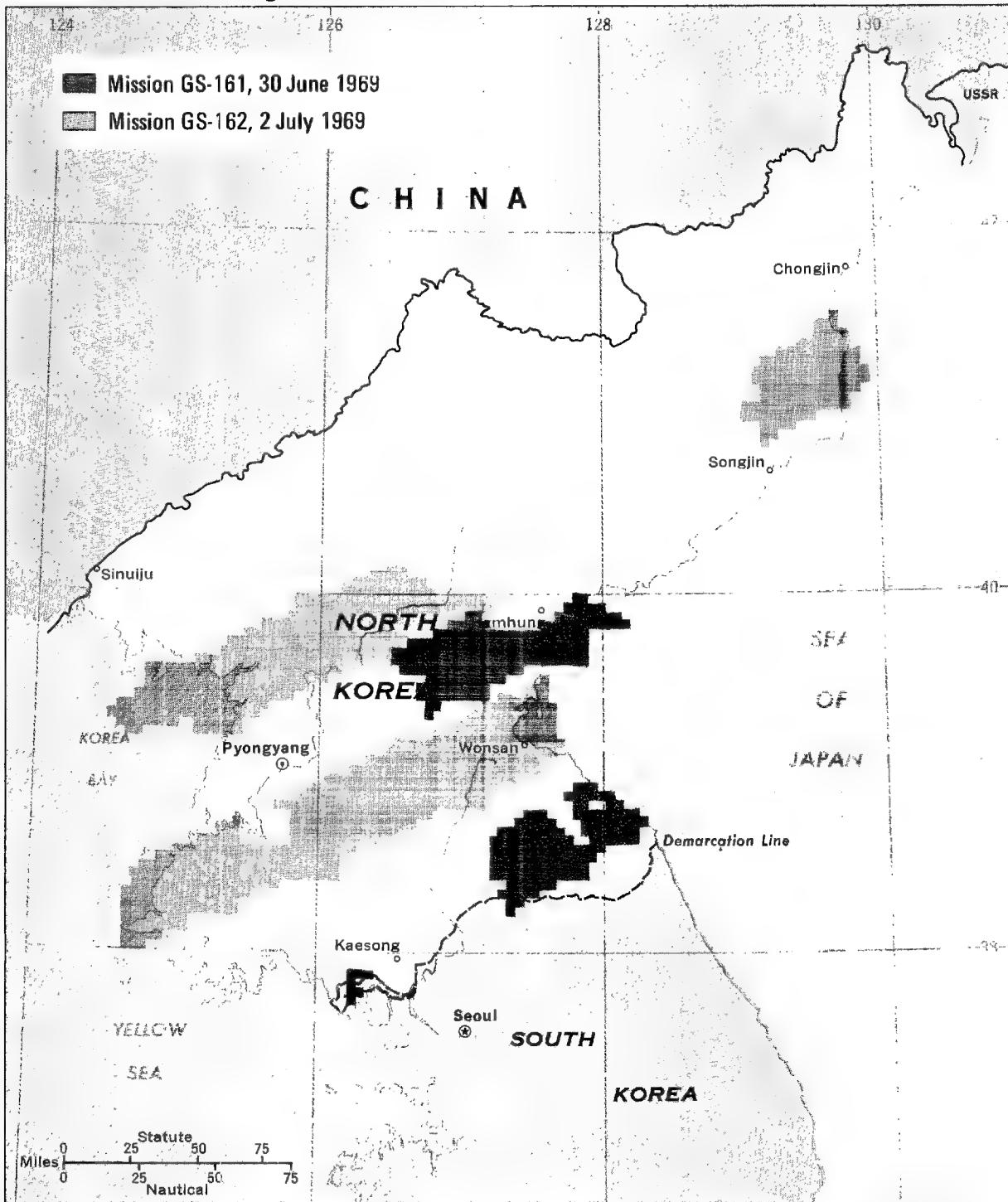
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M-76  
31 July 1969

Tab D

## GIANT SCALE Coverage of North Korea



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## Status of Far East Coverage

T-O-P S-E-C-R-E-T  
COMIREX-M-76  
Tab E

## Primary Targets (30 June 1969)

Primary Targets	Frequency Requirement	Last Coverage		Requirement Satisfied	Remarks
		Mission	Date		
Tian Chou Gaseous Diffusion Plant	Semiannual			Yes	
Pao Tou AE Complex	Semiannual			Yes	
Chih Chin Hsia Nuclear Complex	Semiannual			No	
Lop Nor Nuclear Test Site	Near Test Time			Continuing Requirement	
Hai Yen Nuc Wpns Complex	Semiannual			No	<input type="checkbox"/> partial 25X1A
Heng Yang Ore Concentration Plant	Semiannual			No	
Pei Ping Missile Development Center	Quarterly			No	
Pei Ching/Nan Yuan Airframe Plant	Semiannual			Yes	
Shuang Cheng Tzu Missile Test Range	Quarterly			No	
Chin Hsi Cruise Missile Site	Annual			Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> partial 25X1A
Tai Yuan Propellant Test Facility	Annual			Yes	
Shen Yang Airframe Plant	Quarterly			No	
Cheng Tu Airframe Plant	Quarterly			Yes	
SUBMARINE BASES	Twice Monthly			No	
Lu Shun Naval Base	Twice Monthly			No	
Ching Tuo Naval Complex	Twice Monthly			No	
Shanghai/Kiangnan Shipyards	Twice Monthly			No	
Shanghai/Wu Sung Naval Base	Twice Monthly			No	
Ta Hsien Naval Base	Twice Monthly			No	<input type="checkbox"/> partial 25X1A
Lu Ta Shipyards	Twice Monthly			No	25X1 25X1A

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T-O-P S-E-C-R-E-T

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T-O-P S-E-C-R-E-T

COMIREX-M-76  
Tab EStatus of Far East Coverage  
30 June 1969

AREA	Total Pts. in Area	Required Frequency	Tpts Covered in Requirement Period	Req Percent Covered	Satisfied	REMARKS
South China	348	Monthly	23	7	No	Reporting Period 1-30 Jun 69
Manchuria	297	50%--6 months Near 100%-- 12 months	148 185	50 62	Yes No	
Central China	724	50%--6 months Near 100%-- 12 months	269 402	37 56	No	
Formosa Strait	110	Monthly Sampling (Chinat Requirement)	24	22	*	
S I B	44	Near 100%-- 12 months	36	82	No	
N Korea	593	50%--3 months Near 100%-- 6 months	119 156	20 26	No	

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T-O-P S-E-C-R-E-T

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		Far East Primary Targets		31 July 1969
		31 July 1969		Tab F

Primary Targets	Frequency Requirement	Last Coverage		Requirement Satisfied	Remarks
		Mission	Date		
Lan Chou Gaseous Diffusion Plant	Semiannual			Yes	25X1A
Pao Tou AE Complex	Semiannual			Yes	
Chih Chin Hsia Nuclear Complex	Semiannual			No	
Lop Nor Nuclear Test Site	Near Test Time			Continuing Requirement	
Hai Yen Nuc Wpns Complex	Semiannual			No	
Heng Yang Ore Concentration Plant	Semiannual			No	
Pei Ping Missile Development Center	Quarterly			No	
Pei Ching/Nan Yuan Airframe Plant	Semiannual			Yes	
Shuang Cheng Tzu Mis. Test Range	Quarterly			No	
Chin Hsi Cruise Missile Site	Annual			Yes	
Tai Yuan Propellant Test Facility	Annual			Yes	
Shen Yang Airframe Plant	Quarterly			No	
Cheng Tu Airframe Plant	Quarterly			Yes	
SUBMARINE BASES	Twice Monthly			No	
Lu Shun Naval Base	Twice Monthly			No	
Ching Tao Naval Complex	Twice Monthly			No	
Shanghai/Kiangnan Shipyards	Twice Monthly			No	
Shanghai/Wu Sung Naval Base	Twice Monthly			No	
Ta Hsien Naval Base	Twice Monthly			No	
Lu Ta Shipyards	Twice Monthly			No	

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Status of Far East Coverage  
31 July 1969

COMIREX-M-76  
31 July 1969  
Tab F

AREA	Total Units. in Area	Required Frequency	Facts Covered in Requirement Period	Percent Covered	Req Satisfied	REMARKS
South China	348	Monthly	0	0	No	Reporting Period 1-31 Jul 69
Manchuria	297	50%--6 months Near 100%-- 12 months	132 185	44 62	No No	
Central China	724	50%--6 months Near 100%-- 12 months	242 402	33 56	No No	
Formosa Strait	110	Monthly Sampling (Chinat Requirement)	0	0	*	
S I B	44	Near 100%-- 12 months	36	82	No	
N Korea	593	50%--3 months Near 100%-- 6 months	201 223	34 38	No No	

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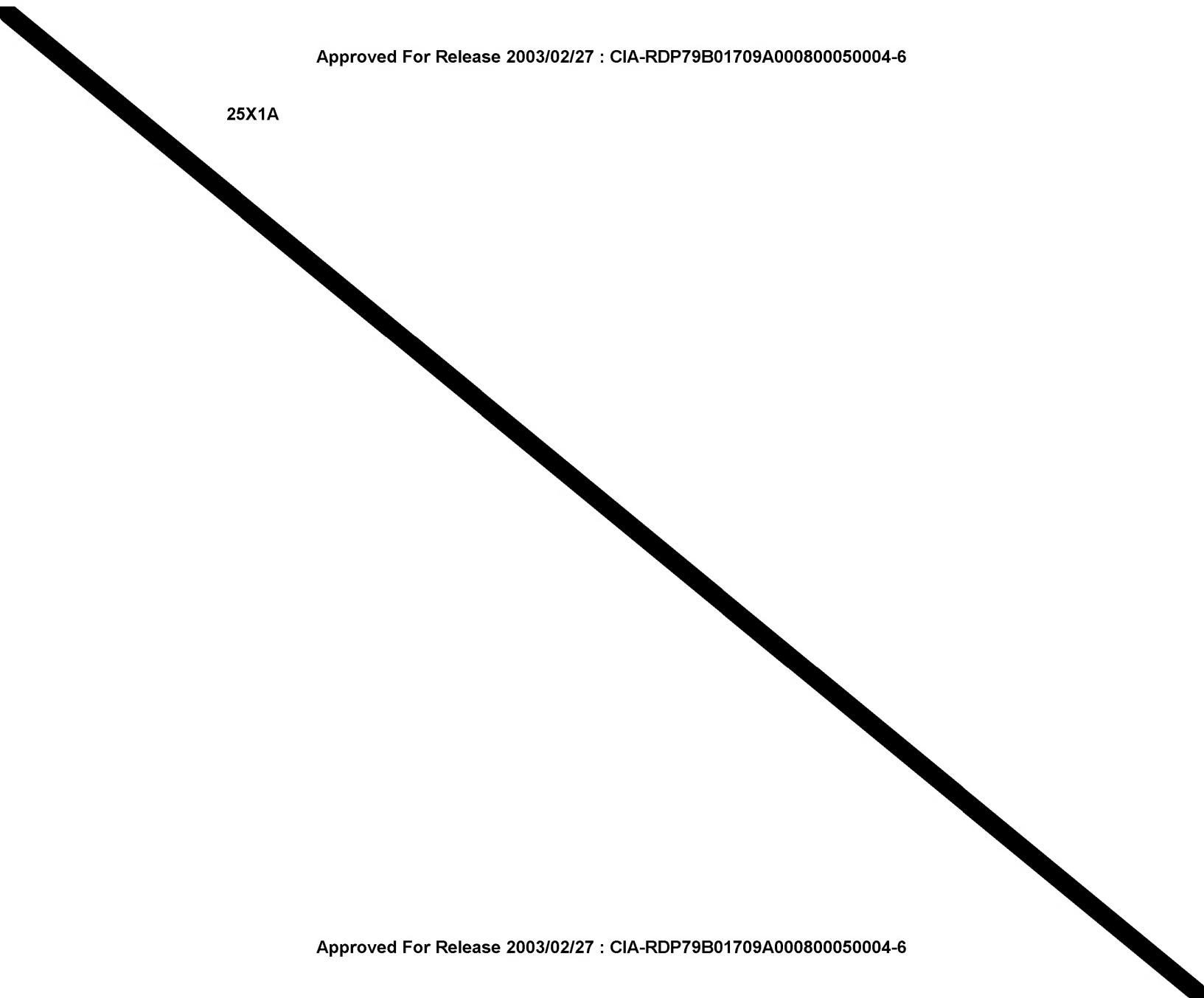
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T-Q-P S-E-C-R-E-T

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